

**Water Quality Standards (WQS) Revisions
Public Participation and Outreach Summary (ATTACHMENT C)**

Step 1: Develop public participation strategy and draft proposals.

April 2000

- Launched Geocities interactive web site.
- The Marine and Coastal Zone Management Advisory Group (MACZMAG) Water Quality (WQ) subcommittee met to discuss how to solicit public comments on proposals. Subcommittee members were asked to distribute web address to their e-mail lists.

September 2000

- Posted perennial streams reclassification draft proposal on Geocities web site.

January 2001

- Developed draft proposed amendments for the antidegradation policy, definition of state waters, bacterial indicators for recreational waters ammonium criteria for open coastal waters and perennial stream classification.
- WQS revisions were informally reviewed by the Department of Health, Attorney General's Office and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Step 2: Make proposals available to public, advertise their location, and solicit comments.

April 2001

- Posted all five informal draft proposed amendments on DOH/EPO web site (<http://www.hawaii.gov/health/eh/eпо/wqrev.htm>).
- MACZMAG WQ subcommittee and others met to discuss the five draft proposals. They agreed to distribute the DOH/EPO website address to their e-mail lists, including Farm Bureau, Hawaii Association of Environmental Professionals, Hawaii Water Environment Association, MACZMAG committee, Hawaii Association of Conservation District Water Quality 2000 meeting's sign-in list, Soil and Water Conservation District members and Sea Grant affiliates.

May 2001

- Published advertisement statewide in newspapers announcing draft proposed amendments.
- MACZMAG WQ subcommittee and others met to discuss comments, revisions, and strategy for public comment period.

June 2001

- MACZMAG WQ subcommittee and others formed a Water Quality Standards Technical Advisory Group (WQS TAG).

Step 3: Amend drafts based on first round of comments, and make the second drafts publicly available. Solicit a second round of informal comments based on the revisions.

June 2001

- Actively pursued presenting WQS revision proposal to professional and community groups at their meetings to encourage awareness and comments.
Groups where we presented in person included:
Environmental Management Advisory Group, Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Hawaii General Contractor's Association, Maui watershed group & Kihei Community Association, Waianae Neighborhood Board.
Groups where we gave information for leadership to disseminate information to their membership (declined personal presentation):
Hawaii Association of Environmental Professionals, Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, Hawaii Water Environment Association, and the Kailua Bay Advisory Council.
- Posted amended drafts based on public comments and discussion onto EPO website with maps. Announced opening of second informal comment period. Comments were preferred by July 13th, but comments received until the end of July were considered.

July 2001

- Met with WQS TAG to review amendments and distributed web address of updated proposals to their e-mail lists for informal comment.
- Sent amendments to other local government agencies for comment.

August 2001

- On August 23rd, HDOH held a streams workshop to discuss the Hawaii Stream Bioassessment Protocol with its authors. Also discussed other protocols currently used in Hawaii and the benefits and disadvantages of each and using biologic criteria as an indicator of water quality in general.
- On August 24th, the WQS TAG met at the HARC building. Determined another meeting solely dedicated to the discussion of the streams proposal was necessary.

September 2001

- On September 14th, the WQS TAG met at HARC. Discussion was dedicated solely to the Streams proposal. This meeting was 3 hours in length rather than the traditional 2 to ensure adequate time for discussion.
- On September 28th, the WQS TAG met at HARC to continue discussion of Streams proposal for those unable to attend on the 14th due to the September 11th tragedy.

Step 4: Finalize revisions and submit request for public hearings.

October 2001

- On October 30th, the WQS TAG met at the State Capitol. Discussion was dedicated to the streams proposal and antidegradation policy.

November 2001

- On November 16th, HDOH sent out an email announcement discontinuing further large WQS TAG meetings. Rather small individual meetings were scheduled with the Deputy Director of the Environmental Health Administration (DDEH) to continue discussion and improve communication.
- During November 19-26th, online discussion continued about the relationship of the 2001 remand of the 1998 CWA 303(d) list and the proposed water quality standard revisions.

December 2001

- On December 7th, Gary Gill (DDEH) met with Linnel Nishioka and Ed Sakota of the Water Commission to discuss water quality standard issues at the DDEH's office.
- On December 12th, Gary Gill met with Paul Matsuo of the Department of Ag to discuss water quality issues at the DDEH's office. Also, Gary Gill and Pat Felling attended the Farm Bureau Environmental Stewardship Committee Meeting to discuss water quality issues at the Farm Bureau building 2343 Rose Street in Kalihi.
- June Harrigan gave a short presentation on the WQS amendments to the CZM Public Advisory Group. She also introduced Katina Henderson as our WQS Planner; she distributed our 3 public outreach documents - the annotated Ramseyer rule, the revised Executive Summary, and the WQS brochure. The Group was asked to provide feedback on the documents as public outreach tools, and encouraged to use them for outreach in their home areas.
- On December 14th, Gary Gill met with Janet Ashman (HARC), Sean O'Keefe (A&B), Paul Schwind and Dan Davidson of LURF and Doug MacCluer (HFB) to discuss water quality issues the DDEH's office.

January 2002

- On January 18th, Gary Gill made a presentation on water quality issues at the HADC annual board meeting. Also, Gary Gill and June Harrigan met with DLNR staff Bill Devick and Glenn Higashi to discuss the Hawaii Stream Bioassessment Protocol.
- On January 23rd, June Harrigan and Ed Chen met with two Army Corps of Engineers staff (Lolly Silva & Molly Kihara) to review the proposed amendments and discuss any potential impacts on the ACOE's CWA 404 permit program.
- On January 24th, at the January Small Business Regulatory Review Board meeting, June Harrigan presented the proposed amendments and discussed their business-related impacts.

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April 2002

- On April 25th the final WQSTAG meeting was held to review the "Frequently Asked Questions" sheet prepared by HIDOH staff.

Dates of WQS TAG meetings:

November 19, 1999
December 10, 1999
April 14, 2000
October 20, 2000
April 17, 2001
May 15, 2001
July 13, 2001
August 23, 2001
August 24, 2001
September 14, 2001
September 28, 2001
October 30, 2001
April 25, 2002